## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action of May 12, 2004, <u>Claim 1</u> is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,996,076 issued to Rowney et al.; <u>Claim 2</u> is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rowney et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,006,258 issued to Kalajan; <u>Claims 7-20</u> are allowed; and <u>Claims 3-6</u> are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

<u>Claims 1 and 2</u> are cancelled, and <u>Claim 3</u> amended so as to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, pending claims 3-20 are now believed to be allowable, and an early notice of their allowance earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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